livery of the well to do.

At length, turning to the driver, he

demanded, received and noted in his memorandum book the ligense number

my duty""And safeguard our property. You

"Thank you, ma'am And would you

mind giving me your cards, please, all

the woman took a little hand bag from

the seat of the carriage and produced

"I've no cards with me." the Ameri-

can told the polleeman. "My name, however, is Philip Kirkwood, and I'm

beside the driver. Immediately they

CHAPTER XIL

wood's sympathy therein, but be

Hallam turned upon him very suc

enough to tell me who and what you

The young man smiled his homely

She gave him no answer It was as

if she were choosing words Kirk-wood braced binnelf to meet the

rather a full, which strung itself out

with lighted wild ws Eccles jumped

They were returned to Craven street

"One mere fapremed the track!" mused Kirkwood "Vendet will the next

At Mrs Hallam's direction, Eccles

hadow of a great rock in a weary

of feet and skirts, confused with mur-

as countenanced by our English cous-

Later a butler entered the room, a

fee, with augar and cream. "It very kindly thought of." be added.

Very good, sir; thank you, sir."

The man turned to go, shuffling soundlessly. Kirkwood was suddenly impressed with bis evasiveness. Ever

countenance had seemed turned from

"Eccles!" he called sharply at a ven-

The butler balted, thunderstruck.

"Turn round, Eccles. I want a look

Eccles faced him unwillingly with a

stolid front, but shifty eyes. Kirk-

wood glanced him up and down, grin-

"Yes, sir; thank you, sir," mumbled

the man unhappily and took instant

advantage of the implied permiss

from the box and scurried to

of boofs and rubber tires

open the fruit door.

"Mr. Kirkwood, will you be good

HE American got a final glimpse

of the bobby, standing in front of No. 9 Frognall street and

staying at the Pless."

Bre perfectly justified, officer."



took thought Recalling a bathroom man, would be thinking to see him so took thought Recalling a bathroom man, would be thinking to see him so Kirl woo on the floor above, thilber he went, endeared and fondled than moved by unselfishly forgetful of his predica, any other emotion Kirkwood could ment if discovered, and, turning on see his shamefaced, sidelong glances the water, sopplug his handkerchief and despised him properly for them.

"One until it dripped. Then, returning, he but without attending to his re-took the bay's head on his knees, wash. spense Mrs. Hallam rattled on in the ed the would, purioined another hand, uneven accents of exchement,

And Kirkwood in construction rupted

that trouble for you, my friend. If was dying of anxiety?"
I've got a grain of sense left, this is "Oh, I say! Can't you my one to leave you alone in your

He was lingering only to restore to had removed in the search for matches bulky sovereign purse, a bandsome plain gold watch, and so forth. But ere he concluded be was aware that the and blinking in the candielight, were

They were blue eyes-blue and shallow as a doll's and edged with long. fine lashes. Intelligence of a certain degree was rapidly informing them. Kirkword returned their questioning glance, transfixed in indecision. His primal inventee to cut and run for it was gone. He had nothing to fear from this child, who could not prevent his going whenever he chose while by remaining he might perchance worm from him something about Dorothy.

"You're feeling better?" He was almost surprised to bear his own voice

put the query.
"I-I think so. Ow, my head; I say. you chap, whoever you are what's happened? I want to get up." The boy added peevishly, "Help a fellow. enn't you?"

"You've had a masty full," Kirkwood observed evenly, passing an arm be-neath the boy's shoulder and belong him to a sitting position. "Do you re-

The other souffed childishly and scrubbed across the floor to rest his back against the wall.

"Why-y, I remember fallin', and then I woke up, and it was all dark, and my head achin' fit to split. I preume I went to sleep again I say, what're you doin' here?

Instead of replying Kirkwood lifted

a warning fuger.
"Hush!" he said tensely, alarmed by noises in the street. "You don't sup-

He had been conscious of a carriage rolling up from the corner as well as in like fun on the knocker." that it had drawn up (presumably) before a nearby dwelling. Now the rat- rassed eye up at the stranger. tle of a key in the hall door was star- "Yes, tlingly audible. Before he could move him on

but the boy would inform against him

hat on his head and moved near the candle, where it rested on the floor. One glimpse would suffice to show him force of the intruders and one move of his foot put out the light; then-perhaps-he might be able to rush them.

Below a brief pause had followed the noise of the door, as if those enter-ing were standing, irresolute, undeckled which way to turn, but abruptly enough the glimmer of candlelight must have been noticed. Kirkwood heard a husbed exclamation, a quick clatter of heels on the parquetry, pattering feet on the stairs, all but drowned by swish and ripple of silken skirts, and a woman stood at the head of the flight-to the American an apparition profoundly amazing as she paused, the light from the floor easting odd, theatric shadows beneath her Kirkwood. eyes and over her brows, edging her eyes themselves with brilliant light beline straight and drawn and shimmering upon the spangies of an evening gown, visible beneath the dark closk which had fallen back from her white, beautiful shoulders.

CHAPTER XI. RS. HALLAM!" eried Kirkwood beneath his breath. The woman ignored his forward, she dropped on both knees by of his hands, clasping it passionately

"Fred!" she cried, a curious break to her tone. "My little Freddie! On. what has happened, dearle?"

"Oh, hello, mamma!" grunted that young man, submitting listlessly to her caresses and betraying no overshelming surprise at her appearance

(Continued.) there Indeed, he seemed more con-

But without attending to his kerchief of silk, with a gliddy border, waited until I couldn't walt any longfrom the other's pecket and of this er Freddie, dear I had to know, had manufactured a rude but serviceable to come Eccles came home should Toward the conclusion of his attent outside, that some one had followed tions the sufferer began to show signs you in here and that a bobby had teld of returning animation. He stirred him to move on I didn't know had teld restlessly, whimpered a little stirred

"It's about 3, I think. Have you burt got up.

"It's about 3, I think. Have you burt

"So?" he commented rucfolly. "I yourself, dear? Oh, why didn't you
guess I am an ass, all right, taking all come home? You must have known I

"Oh, I say! Can't you see I'm burt? Had a pasty fall and must 've been nsleep ever since."

"My precious one! How"-

'Can't say, hardly. I say, don't paw a chap so, mamma, I brought Eccles well, because I didn't feet so much like tomb So I left the door ajar and told



"Here you hart marself, dear ?" him not to let anyhody come in. Then I came upstairs. There must 've been sometedy already in the bouse. I heard voices down below, and the door banged, and somebody began hammer-

The boy paused, rolling an embar-

"Yes, yes, dear!" Mrs. Hallam urged

the of a key in the substitution of a key in the door itself opened with a slam.

Kirkwood moved toward the stairs bead and drew back, with a cry of disbead and drew back and dr His escape was cut off. He jumped at him, and we both fell down get home and have it out there." could run upstairs and hide, of course, the whole flight. And that's all. Besides, my head's achin' like everything."

Mrs. Hallam looked up at Kirkwood, little party was brought up standing who bowed silently, struggling to hide both his amusement and perplexity.

Again be bowed, grinning awry. good enough to explain your presence here," she informed him, with danger-

ous serenity. "To be frank with you"-"I advise that course, Mr. Kirk-

"Thanks awfiv I came here half an hour ago looking for a lost purse. full-well, not quite full of sovereigns. It was my purse, by the way."

Suspicion glinted like foxfire in the cold green eyes beneath ber puckered "I do not understand," she said slowly and in level tones.

"I didn't expect you to," returned irkwood. "No more do I. But, anyway, it must be clear to you that I've done my best for this gentleman here." neath their dark lashes, showing her He paused, with an interrogative lift

> "'This gentleman' is my son, Frederick Hallam. But you will explain"-"Pardon me, Mrs. Hallam; I shall explain nothing at present. Permit ne to point out that your position here like mine-is, to say the least, anom-The random stroke told. as to defer explanations till a more convenlent time, don't you think? Then, if you like, we can chant confidences

His levity seemed to displease and perturb the woman. She turned from him, with an impatient movement of wall"-

"Freddie, dear, do you feel able to

"I'my Oh I dare say -1 deat know Worder would cour friend all-Mr Kirl wood both a cour or of "Cherned," Kirkwood declared

sunvely, "if you'll take the candle Mrs.

confusion. "I won't keep you walt-ing." And, passing, with an averted face, she ran quickly operairs to the and floor, taking the light with ber. its glow faded from the walls above, and Kirkwood surmised that she had entered the front bedchamber. For ments he could hear her moving about. Once something acraped and bumped on the floor, as if a heavy bit of furniture had been moved. Again there was a resounding thud that defied speculation, and this was presently followed by a duli clang of

Eventually-it was not really longthere came the quick rush of Mrs. Hallam's feet along the upper hall, and the woman reappeared, one hand holding her skirts clear of her pretty feet as she descended in a rush that caused the candle's flame to flicker

Halfway down "Mr. Kirkwood!" she called tempestuously. "Didn't you find it?" he countered

blandly. She stopped lerkily at the bottom what, siry" she asked.

"What you sought, Mrs. Hallam." Smiling, he bore unfinching the prolonged inspection of her eyes, at once somber with doubt of him and dashing with indignation because of his impu-

"You knew I wouldn't find it, then may have suspected you

wouldn't "

Now he was sure that she had been scarching for the gladstone bag. That evidently was the bone of contention Mrs Hallam her son Dorothy had been successful But, on the other band, Calendar and Mrs. Hallam were "Where is it, Mr. Kirkwood?"

"Madam, bave you the right

Through another lengthening po while they faced each other he marked again the curious contraction of her

"I have the right," she declared steadily. "Where is it?"

"How can I be sure?" "Then you don't know!"
"Indeed." he interrupted. "I would be glad to feel that I ought to tell you what I know."

"What you know!" The exclamation, low spoken, more an echo of her thoughts than intended know I thought there was. It made for Kirkwood, was accompanied by a me feel creepy rather. At any rate, I little shake of the woman's bead, mute evidence to the fact that she was be-wildered by his finesse. And this delighted the young man beyond meas-ure, making bim feel himself master

of a difficult situation.

The woman would have led again,

poor boy! Of course we'll go." As they passed out Kirkwood shut

by a gruff and authoritative summons 'Just a minute, please, you there!" I thought so. And he halted in unfeigned respect for the burly and impressive figure, garbed in blue and

Mrs. Hallam showed less deference for the obstructionist. The assumed hauteur and impatience of her pose were artfully reflected in her voice as she rounded upon the bobby with an indiguant demand. "What is the mean-

ing of this, officer?"
"Precisely what I wants to know, ma'am," returned the man, unyielding beneath his respectful attitude. obliged to ask you to tell me what you were doing in that 'ouse. And what's the matter with this 'ere gentleman?" he added, with a dublous stare at young Hallam's bandaged head and

"Perhaps you don't understand," admitted Mrs. Hallam sweetly course—i see—it's perfectly natural at you."
The house has been shut up for some Eccles time and"-

"Thank you, ma'sm, that's just it There was something wrong going on early in the evening, and I was told "Thank you. Eccles. I'll remember "Thank you. Eccles. I'll remember me, too, he could tell by the instant contraction to keep an eye on the premises. It's of her eyes of a cat. "It would be best duty, ma'am. I've got my report to you now. You'll remember me, too, won't you? You're a bad actor, aren't you. Eccles?"

"The house," said Mrs. Hallam, with the long suffering patience of one eluyour-er-son is not enjoying himself to a being of a lower order of intelli-apparently, and the attention of the gence, "is the property of my son. to go. police had best not be called to this Arthur Frederick Burgoyne Hallam of Cornwall. This is"-

tion of Eccles' abortive attempt to stop "Beg pardon, ma'am, but I was told him at the door of No. 9 and wonder ing now that he came to think of it, why precisely young Hallam had deem-

"Colonel Burgoyne died some time ed it necessary to travel with a bodyago. My son is his heir. This is my guard and adopt such furtive methods
son. He came to the house this eyen. to enter into as well as to obtain what

ing to get some property be desired and, it seems, tripped on the stairs and fell unconscious. I became worried about him and drove over, accompanied by my friend Mr. Kirkwood."

The policeman looked his troubled Kirkwood turned active attention Thoughtfully he poured himself a

cup of coffee, swallowing it hot and black as it came from the sliver pot, The policeman looked his troubled state of mind and wagged a doubtful head over the case. There was his duty, and there was, opposed to it, the then munched the sandwiches It was kindly thought of, this early fact that all three were garbed in the

more and more a remarkable woman with each phase of her character that she chose to disclose. At odds with him, she yet took time to think of his creature needs. Women, he propounded gravely, are queer. There's no telling anything about them.

"It's a very unusual case, ma'am," he applicated, "I 'opes you won't 'old it against me. I'm only trying to do One of the most unreadable speci-mens of the sex on which he pro-nounced this highly original dictum entered the room just then, and he found himself at one out of his chair and his dream, lawing. "Mrs Hallam.

The woman nedded and smiled gra-"Certainly not." Without besitation "Eccles has attended to you needs, I hope? Please don't step smoka card. Her son likewise found his case and handed the officer an oblong the other side of the hearth and probably by accident, out of the radius of



supper.

white army immerculate against the She was very handenne it deed inst

then, though a keeper light mit hi have proved less flattering "New, Mr. Kirkwood?" she opened

briskly with a second fortuite un friendly ned, and paneed, her pose re entive take me back to Bermondsey Old Kirkword sat down again smills

rood natured source latten of her no prejudi ed attitude Your sen, Mrs Pattam?

ushered him lute the smeking room, on the ground floor in the roor of the Freddle's deleg well enough dwelling, there to wall wite she helped her sen upstates and to bed He sighed with pleasure at first glimpse of its hixurious but informat Freddle," she explained "has a delinte constitution and his seen little o be world Such melectroms as to comforts and threw himself carelessly into a heavily padded lounging chair. We must make allowan ev. Mr Kirk dropping one knee over the other and lighting the last of his expensive that it is time we came to an under cigars with a sensation of undiluted gratitude, as one coming to rest in the

Kirkwood agreed-"Yes," affably. "I purpose being perfectly straight-forward. To begin with, I don't place land. He was very sleepy.

Through the halls, on the stairs, there were burryings and scurryings known quantity, a new factor Won't you please tell me what you are andare you a friend of Mr Calendar's?

"I think I may lay claim to that honor, though"-to Kirkwood's way of muring voices. Presently, in an ad-Joining room, Philip Kirkwood heard a maldservant wrestling hopefully with that most exasperating of mod-ern time saving devices, the telephone his own part would be escential if they were to get on-"I hardly know him Mrs Hallam I bad the pleasure of meeting bim only this afternoon."

She knitted her brows over this won his approval, but availed nothing for her purpose. In the outcome the telephone triumphed, and the maid gave up the unequal contest. statement

"That, I assure you, is the truth" h

"But I really don't understand."
"Nor I. Mrs. Hallem Calen

"Nor I, Mrs. Hallow, Calendar aside, I am Philip Kingwood, Ameri-can, resident abroad for some years at ease. Drawing a small taboret to placed thereon a tray, deferentially im- a native of San Francisco, of a cer tain are, unmarried, by profession a Allam 'as thought 'ow as Mr. Kirkpoor painter'

"Beyond that? I presume I must "Please thank Mrs. Hallam for me." tell you, though I confess I'm in doubt." He besitated, weighing can Kirkwood's gratified eyes ranged the laden tray. There were sandwiches, dor in the balance with discretion.
"But who are you for? Are you is biscuit, cheese and a pot of black cof-

George Calendar's pay'r "Heaven fortend!" plously. sole interest at the present moment ito nuravel a most entraneing mys

"Entitled 'Dorothy Calendar,' of ourse. You've known her long?"
"Eight hours, I believe," he admit-

"Miss Unlendar's interests will not suffer through anything you may tell

"Whether they will or no, I see I must swing a looser tongue or you'll be showing me the door."

The woman shook her head, amused "Not until," she told him significantly. "Very well, then." And he haunched into an abridged parrative of the night's events as he understood them. touching lightly on his own circum stances, the real poverty which had brought him back to Craven street by way of Frognall. "And there you have it all. Mrs. Hallam."

"It is so like Calendar," she exclaimed, "so like him that one sees how foolish it was to trust-no, not to trust, but to believe-that he could ever be thrown off the scent once be my sen and i, I shall have only mythere's

(To be Continued.)

"For Pent" cards on sale a

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Indeed, catarrh of the kidneys is more erious than catarrh affecting some of ity Association, write-: the other organs of the body.

itments, if not fatal.

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